IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE WESTERN DIVISION

CAMERON ALLEN, Plaintiff,	
v.	No. 2:16-cv-02997-STA-jay
SHELBY COUNTY, et al.,	
Defendants.	

ORDER REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Plaintiff Cameron Allen, an inmate at Northwest Correctional Complex, filed a *pro se* Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 on December 21, 2016. (ECF No. 1.) On August 30, 2017, Plaintiff filed a Second Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 11.) On November 2, 2018, the Court dismissed the Complaint as to all defendants—with the exception of Officer FNU Hopson. (ECF No. 18 at 14.) The Court ordered the Clerk to issue process for Defendant Hopson and deliver that process to the United States Marshals Service ("USMS") for service. (*Id.*) The Clerk issued the Summons on November 28, 2018. (ECF No. 19.) Defendant Hopson's information was listed as:

Officer FNU Hopson Shelby County Criminal Justice Center 201 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38103

(*Id.*) On March 14, 2019, the Summons was returned as unexecuted, because additional information was needed "to verify which FNU Hopson." (ECF No. 22.) Purportedly, there were two individuals having the last name Hopson who were employed at the Shelby County Criminal Justice Center. (*Id.*) Thus, on March 19, 2019, the Court ordered the Clerk to reissue process for "Officer FNU

Hopson, deputy jailer/officer who held the rank of deputy jailer/pod officer and was assigned to 4th

floor admin segregation on or about January 18, 2016." (ECF No. 23.)

On May 22, 2019, the Summons was again returned as unexecuted. (ECF No. 25.) In this

instance, the USMS was unable to locate Defendant Hopson. Purportedly, Defendant Hopson

resigned from his position at the Shelby County Criminal Justice Center. (Id.) The USMS was

provided with a forwarding address in Kentucky. (Id.) The USMS attempted to serve process at the

Federal Correctional Institution in Manchester, Kentucky, but was told that Defendant Hopson is not

employed at that facility. (Id.)

When an indigent plaintiff has taken reasonable steps to identify and locate a defendant, the

Court is responsible for ensuring that service is properly effected. Abel v. Harp, 122 F. App'x. 248,

251 (6th Cir. 2005) (citing Byrd v. Stone, 94 F.3d 217, 219 (6th Cir. 1996)). In the present case, the

Court has exhausted its resources in trying to locate Defendant Hopson so that he may be properly

served. Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides for dismissal of the action if the

defendant is not served with a copy of the complaint within 120 days after the commencement of the

suit.

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff provide the Court with the correct address of

Defendant Hopson so that service can be processed. Plaintiff is to provide this information to the

Court in writing within twenty-one (21) days of the entry of this Order or the Court will dismiss this

action against Defendant without prejudice and without further notice to Plaintiff.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/S. Thomas Anderson

S. THOMAS ANDERSON

CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Date: May 23, 2019

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